

President
Kathleen Hatke Aro

Board of Directors
Chair
Peter J. Dolan
KPMG LLP.

Vice Chair
Melissa M. Jagst
Deloitte & Touche LLP

Secretary
Angela D. Acosta
Grant Thornton LLP

Treasurer
John Anstett
Masco Corporation

Immediate Past Chair
Chip Dawson
Payroll 1, Inc.

Directors
Kenneth A. Bluhm
Blue Cross Blue Shield of
Michigan

Heidi Altesleben Cieslik
Rehmann Robson Group

Stephanie J. Clifford
RGIS, LLC

Alexis C. Dishman
Comerica Bank

Heath Eisman
PricewaterhouseCoopers,
LLP

Audrey J. Harvey
Blue Cross Blue Shield of
Michigan

Theresa Hilliard
Walsh College

Ellen Hoepfner
Clark Hill, PLC

Lynne Huisman
Plante & Moran, PLLC

David L. Johnson
DTE Energy

Lawrence F. Leaman
Masco Corporation

Leslie R. Malcolmson

Gail Sparks Pitts
Oakland Community College

Jassi S. Sachdev

Robert Zalewski
Cole Taylor Bank

General Counsel
Duane Tarnacki
Clark Hill, PLC

Proud to be named...



ACCOUNTING
AID
SOCIETY

February 16, 2012

The Honorable Senator Jack Brandenburg
Chair, Senate Finance Committee
605 Billie S. Farnum Building
P.O. Box 30036
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7536

Dear Senator Brandenburg:

This is a letter of support for HB-5178. This bill allows an individual seeking an exemption from property taxes to submit an affidavit created by the State Tax Commission instead of submitting federal and state income tax returns not otherwise required to be filed.

Currently, homeowners seeking an exemption are required to file and produce income tax returns even if those returns show no taxable income. These zero income returns place an unnecessary burden on homeowners and those who are trying to assist them as well as government agencies involved with processing unnecessary paperwork.

Accounting Aid Society alone has received hundreds of inquiries and calls from individuals requesting preparation of zero income returns. We have made efforts to assist these individuals as best we can; however, we are neither funded nor equipped to prepare zero income returns. We need to direct our resources towards serving the thousands of low to middle income taxpayers who are required to file returns or who receive a benefit such as a tax refund for doing so.

We urge the Senate Finance Committee to consider HB-5178 as soon as possible to minimize further burden on citizens, agencies providing assistance, and state government.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Hatke Aro

President

Accounting Aid Society